



# GCSE Curriculum Information 2014-2016

All students study the core curriculum which comprises English, Mathematics, Science, Welsh (short course), Religious Studies (short course), Welsh Baccalaureate Diploma and Physical Education. Students choose four subjects from the options menu.

## **GCSE English**

All students study GCSE English Language in Year 10. The assessment of GCSE English Language comprises two written examinations and controlled assessments. Students will sit the two written examinations in June 2015. The written examinations contribute 60% to the overall GCSE grade. The controlled assessments make up the remaining 40% of the GCSE English Language Grade of which 20% is assessed through written assignments and 20% is assessed through a Speaking and Listening Assessment. Written assessments will be completed in term 1 and speaking and listening assessments will be completed in term 2.

## **GCSE Mathematics**

GCSE Mathematics is assessed through written examinations. The module examination dates are 5<sup>th</sup> November 2014 for unit 1, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2015 for unit 2, and January 2016 for Unit 3 (dates tbc).

## **GCSE/BTEC Science**

There are three different qualifications offered in Science at Key Stage 4. These are GCSE Separate Science, GCSE Science and Additional Science and BTEC Applied Science.

**GCSE Science** qualifications are assessed through module examinations in June 2015, January 2016 and May 2016 as well as controlled assessments undertaken in lessons throughout Years 10 and 11. Controlled assessments contribute 25% towards the overall GCSE qualifications in Science.

The **BTEC Applied Science** qualification is assessed mainly through continual assessment of students' work throughout the two year course. Some assessment is through external examinations in BTEC Applied Science.

## **Option Subjects**

Students study four subjects from the options menu which includes a range of GCSE and BTEC qualifications. BTEC courses are assessed mainly through coursework assignments. GCSE courses are assessed through examinations and controlled assessments. The following GCSE subjects include module examinations during May & June 2015: Health & Social Care, IT, Religious Studies and Welsh Full course.

## **Welsh Baccalaureate Diploma**

All students undertake the Welsh Baccalaureate Diploma. As part of the Welsh Baccalaureate Diploma students complete Essential Skills qualifications in Communication, Numeracy and IT and also study the wider key skills of Problem Solving, Working with Others and Improving Own Learning and Performance.

## **Religious Studies and Welsh short course qualifications**

The GCSE short course qualification in Welsh is assessed through written examination in May 2016. The GCSE short course qualification in Religious Studies is assessed through written examination in May 2015. Controlled assessments are undertaken in Welsh throughout Years 10 & 11.